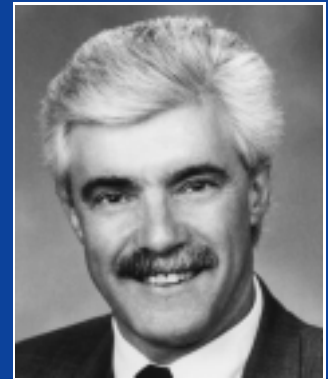




1999 Session Survey

State Representative
Mike Carrell • 28th District

Representing Anderson Island, Fircrest, Lakewood, Steilacoom,
part of Tacoma, Tillicum and University Place



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Children and Family Services

Finance



Friends and neighbors,

The 105-day 1999 legislative session is upon us and there are many challenges ahead. As I begin my fifth year as your representative, I would like to thank you for your input in the past and look forward to working for you the next two years.

For only the second time in state history, the 98-member House of Representatives will be split 49-49 between Republicans and Democrats. There will be two speakers of the house. Committees will have two co-chairs. Every committee will have an even number of members from each party. In other words, we will need to get along in order to accomplish anything this session. I think we can do that.

Below you'll find a comprehensive survey of some of the subjects I anticipate will come up this session. I would like to know what you think in order to more effectively represent you in Olympia.

The session will run through the end of April, so feel free to contact me. Again, I look forward to working for you and appreciate your thoughts and comments.

Sincerely,

Mike
Mike

GENERAL

Considering the following areas, which do you believe are the three most significant issues facing our state?

- ☐ Higher education
- ☐ Drugs and crime
- ☐ Economy and jobs
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Health care
- ☐ K-12 public education
- ☐ Social issues
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Taxes and spending
- ☐ Other _____

The state Legislature can grant and rescind authority to impose local laws. At what point should the Legislature authorize local government to step in and make decisions?

- ☐ A. Junk in a neighbor's yard
- ☐ B. Controversial sign or business location
- ☐ C. When a person is unemployed
- ☐ D. Smoking in a public place
- ☐ E. Rude or poor service at a store
- ☐ F. Homelessness
- ☐ G. Road improvements
- ☐ H. Providing health care
- ☐ I. Public safety

5 Immediate!
4 Urgent
3 Soon
2 Not necessary
1 Stay out!

Are you comfortable with the direction government is taking in your life?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If not, why?

If government must be involved, I am most comfortable with

- A. Federal
- B. State
- C. Local

Initiative 601, passed by the voters in 1993, limits state government spending increases to the rate of inflation and population growth.

- A. I support maintaining the spending limit
- B. The limit should be even lower
- C. I think the limit should be removed
- D. The limit should be exceeded in certain cases

In what instances would you support exceeding the limit.

EDUCATION

There have been several incidents of school violence around the nation in the past two years.

How important is the issue of school violence to you?

- A. Very important
- B. Somewhat important
- C. Not important

How should we increase funding for school security improvements?

- A. Doesn't require more funding
- B. Special school levy
- C. State general fund increase
- D. Prioritize current spending

(continued on back page)

To allow me to personally respond, please include your name and phone number.

Name:

Phone:

Please
place
33¢
stamp
here

Representative Mike Carrell
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Recent elections have caused some to call for amending the state constitution to allow for a simple majority to pass school levies. Currently, 60 percent approval is needed.

- A. I support requiring 50 percent approval
- B. I oppose lowering the requirement from 60 percent to a simple majority.
- C. I think the limit should be somewhere between 50 and 60 percent

TAXES

In 1997, voters approved a measure (Referendum 47) which limits the growth in state and local property taxes to the rate of inflation. The law provides an exemption for local government to raise property taxes up to 6 percent if there is a “substantial need.” Under which circumstances would you agree that government should be allowed to raise property taxes above the rate of inflation:

- A. Whenever it’s deemed necessary
- B. Only for emergencies and unforeseen events such as natural disasters
- C. Only by a vote of the people
- D. Never

In the last two years, the Legislature has permanently reduced the state property tax levy by 5 percent, placed limits on future increases in both state and local property taxes, and expanded property tax exemptions for seniors and people with disabilities. In your opinion, are property taxes:

- A. Too low
- B. Somewhat fair and reasonable
- C. Still too high

The State Supreme Court struck down a proposal that would have limited increases in property assessments for tax purposes. The provision would have phased in property tax increases caused by sharp annual increases in property values. Would you support a constitutional amendment to allow “value averaging” so that sharp increases in property values would not result in large annual tax increases?

- A. Yes
- B. No

SALMON

The governor is proposing to limit use of land next to all creeks, bays and lakes in order to preserve salmon. If this resulted in devaluation of these lands next to water, a shift of property taxes to others and a major lifestyle change for most people in Washington, you would be:

- Relieved
- We cannot do enough to save the salmon.
- Concerned
- Salmon are important, but so are people and their property
- Outraged
- We’ve gone too far already.

Which government entity should control efforts to restore salmon runs?

- A. State government control
- B. Federal government control
- C. Combination of both

There are several possible ways to restore wild salmon runs in Washington. Would you be inclined to favor or oppose the following ideas?

- A. Stop all fishing until runs rebuild (Favor/oppose)
- B. Tougher environmental regulations (Favor/oppose)
- C. Individual property owners set aside land for habitat enhancement (Favor/oppose)
- D. Raise electric rates 5% 10% 20% More Not at all
- E. Increase utility rates so the more you use the more you pay. (Favor/oppose)
- F. Other (specify) _____

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